

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 055655

64

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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EA:PCHABIB(IN SUBSTANCE)

S/S:O:DLMACK

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P 062057Z MAR 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 055655

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CHUS

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF NEW USLO CHIEF

FOR ACTING CHIEF THAYER ONLY

1. THE PRESIDENT HAS DECIDED TO NOMINATE THOMAS S. GATES, FORMER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND CURRENTLY WITH MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST, AS OUR NEW LIAISON CHIEF IN PEKING. LORD PASSED THIS WORD TO THE CHINESE FOR THEIR PRIOR APPROVAL PER PREVIOUS CUSTOM AND AMBASSADOR HAN HSU INFORMED LORD MARCH 6 THAT THE PRC GOVERNMENT AGREES.

2. LORD TOLD THE CHINESE THAT WE EXPECTED TO MAKE A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT VERY SOON AND THAT WE WOULD ALERT THEM IN ADVANCE. WE WILL ALERT YOU AS WELL. LORD ADDED THAT GATES WOULD PROCEED TO PEKING AS EXPEDITIOUSLY

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AS POSSIBLE AND THIS MIGHT BE AS SOON AS EARLY APRIL.

3. THIS IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY AND YOU NEED TAKE
NO ACTION. INGERSOLL

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